

Latin Roots: Active Verbs

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

root: the part of a word that contains its core meaning

prefix: a group of letters added to the beginning of a word to make a word with a different meaning

suffix: a group of letters added to the end of a word to make a word with a different meaning

etymology: the history of a word

HERE'S HOW

Step 1: Become familiar with common Latin roots.

Latin Root	Meaning	Examples
<i>duc(e), duct</i>	to lead	conduct, deduce, duct, induct, introduce, production, reduce
<i>form</i>	to shape	form, information, reform, transformation
<i>mitt, miss</i>	to send	dismiss, emit, mission, permit, transmittal
<i>press</i>	to press	depress, expression, impress, oppression, pressure, suppressor
<i>port</i>	to carry	deport, export, important, report, support, transportation
<i>tract</i>	to pull	attraction, detract, extraction, subtract

Step 2: Look for the root of an unfamiliar word. Use your knowledge of prefixes and suffixes to help focus your search for the root. Then think of other words that use the same root. What common meaning might those words have? What does the root mean?

Step 3: Create a working definition. Use your understanding of the root's meaning to make a guess about the meaning of the unfamiliar word.

Step 4: Check the dictionary. Compare the dictionary definition with your guess. Then look for the word's etymology, or history. The etymology usually follows the word's part of speech.